

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2005
6:30 P.M.

- Call to Order:** The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street, Rushville. President Denny Corn called the meeting to order. Other members present were David Hasecuster, Wilma Jo Kile, and Jack Harmon. Jan Voiles and Tim Shuppert were absent. Also present was Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse and Secretary Carla Sharpe.
- Minutes:** Minutes of November 8, 2005 was presented for approval. Hasecuster moved to approve the minutes for November 8th. Kile seconded. Motion carried.
- Reports:** Mathews stated not much is going on at this time.

Mathews then shared with the board his “2005 Year End Report” which is as follows: 2005 has been another great year.

First off, I want to thank all my employees, full time and seasonal, Donnie Rains and Chris Philpot, Anita Carfield, Jean Kopf and Rita Kaster, Courtney Cameron, Darren Kessler, Bobby Wood, Patrick Hunter and Kathy Brown, for a great job keeping the parks so beautiful. Without them and their hard work it could not be done.

I would also like to thank Carla Sharpe and Marcia Fish for all their help. Both of them do a lot more then they get credit for.

Last but not least I would like to thank all the volunteers that love the Parks as I do. Without their help it would not be possible to accomplish all that we do.

This year with the support of the Rush County Community Foundation and Rush Shelby Energy we were able to complete the widening of the Fitness Trail in North Veterans Memorial Park to 8’ wide. It was a well accepted project by all who walks the trail.

We added (3) new swings in North Veterans Memorial Park (1) in South Veterans Memorial and (1) in Laughlin Park. This was a project that was loved by all.

The Parks department moved to a new building which was long overdue. The new building is much bigger and gives us more room to work inside in the winter to rebuild picnic tables and benches and much more. We are very thankful for this new location. This made it possible for us to remodel our old park office to be used as a rental for family gatherings.

The Parks department also was given the responsibility to maintain the Booker-T Washington Community Center. We have blown in insulation in the ceiling and repaired windows to help cut the cost of the heating and cooling bills.

The Parks department now and has been this past summer maintaining the new South Riverside Park. We have worked very hard this past year to get the park and wooded area to be the beautiful park that it is.

Even with the added responsibilities we were able to continue to help sponsor the Relay for Life Program which has grown each year.

We added a new program Movie in the Park which was well attended along with Reading in the Park, Gospel Music, Valentines Dance, Halloween Parade, Horseshoe Tourney, the shuttle service for all the programs at the new amphitheater.

This has been another exciting year and I look forward to working with all of you in 2006.

Thank you Mayor Bob Bridges, Common Council and Parks Board members for your trust and support that you have given me this past year. With your support and help we will continue to improve our city parks which will make us all proud to be a part of.

Once again, I thank you!

Parks Director Danny Mathews

Mathews then wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

- Claims:** Reviewed prior to meeting by Harmon and Hasecuster. Hasecuster moved to approve the claims for the month. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.
- Unfinished Business:** Approve Draft Master Plan – Harmon moved to approve the Draft Master Plan and stated “Job Well Done”. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried.
- Sharpe stated she will send it off to the DNR this week for approval.
- New Business:** **Election of Officers** – The floor was open for nominations.
- Kile nominated Corn for President. Harmon moved to close nominations and approve Corn as President. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried.
- Kile nominated Harmon for Vice President. Kile moved to close nominations and approve Harmon as Vice President. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried.

Kile nominated Hasecuster as Secretary. Kile moved to close nominations and approve Hasecuster as Secretary. Harmon seconded. Motion carried.

“2006” Parks Board officers are: Denny Corn, President
Jack Harmon, Vice President
David Hasecuster, Secretary

Unfinished Business: Re-Visit Resolution #2005-1-P&R – Establishment of charges for rental of spaces by vendors during events held at Riverside Park. Hasecuster stated he is waiting on information from the Chamber of Commerce and asked to table this at this time.

Re-Visit Resolution #2005-2-P&R – Specific hours for park – Mathews stated there are so many things he feels should be mentioned in this resolution such as no metal detectors and cleaning up after dogs.
Newhouse stated she feels this ordinance was specifically setting the hours in the park and that we can do other resolutions for metal detectors and cleaning up after your dog. Mathews stated he feels we need these in Resolution form so the police can enforce the law. He has had a big problem this year with metal detectors, people digging holes for treasures and then not putting the ground back the way it was, leaving a hole. Rules for all the parks were discussed.
Newhouse suggested banning weapons in the park and banning underage smoking. Harmon questioned the standard ordinance violation fees and stated he will check on that. Hasecuster stated he feels all parks should be listed in the Resolution.
Harmon asked Mathews to prepare a list of what he would like to see in the parks and get to Sharpe to distribute with the minutes.

Hasecuster reported news from the Amphitheater meeting regarding the possible development of a summer concert series sponsored by the City and the Chamber.

There being no further business, Kile moved to adjourn. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

DENNY CORN, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

JAN VOILES, MEMBER

DAVID HASECUSTER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY